

ARTICLE APPEARED

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NEWSWEEK
7 October 1985LETTERS**No Intervention by Casey**

NEWSWEEK carried an item in its Periscope section (Sept. 16) drawn from an article in The Nation that charges that the director of central intelligence, Bill Casey, had intervened in a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request by Mars Inc. The Nation's charges are absolutely false. Director Casey does not know Forrest Mars Sr., Mars did not contact Mr. Casey, nor did Mr. Casey know of or take any action concerning an FOIA request from the Mars company. Had anyone at NEWSWEEK taken the time to call the agency, he or she would have been told that we had denied the story to Jay Peterzell, author of the Nation article. You should have taken the trouble to verify the story before replaying it.

GEORGE V. LAUDER
Director, Public Affairs
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C.

While we are aware that the Periscope page of NEWSWEEK deals in gossip and speculation rather than hard news, we must still take exception to the item headlined A CANDYMAKER SEEKS SOME CIA GOODIES. The item is not true. Your reporter made no effort to verify the story by calling us at M&M/Mars.

H. L. WALKER, Vice President
Mars Inc.
McLean, Va.